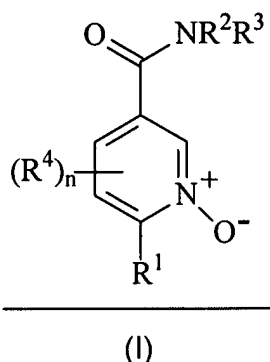


AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The compound of claim 1 wherein A~~
compound having the structure (I):



and optical isomers, diastereomers, enantiomers and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein

R^1 is $R^5-SO_2^-$ and R^5 is selected from alkyl, heteroalkyl, aryl, carbocycle, aryl(alkylene), and carbocycle(alkylene)

R^2 is hydrogen;

R^3 is substituted or unsubstituted aryl or substituted or unsubstituted aryl(alkylene);

R^4 is selected from halogen, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl, substituted or unsubstituted carbocycle aliphatic ring, substituted or unsubstituted amino, or hydroxy, wherein, when R^4 is halogen, it is not para to the N-oxide group; and

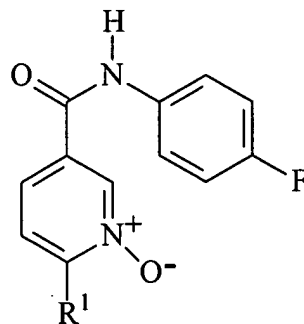
n is 0 or 1.

Claim 6 (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 5 wherein R^1 is selected from $(C_1-C_6\text{alkyl})SO_2^-$, $PhSO_2^-$, fluorinatedphenyl SO_2^- , $PhCH_2SO_2^-$, cyclopentyl SO_2^- , *m*-carboxyphenyl SO_2^- , *m*-methylphenyl SO_2^- , and $HOOC-(C_1-C_4\text{alkylene})SO_2^-$.

Claims 8-14 (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 145 having the structure (II)



(II), wherein R¹ is selected from (C₁-C₆alkyl)SO₂⁻, PhSO₂⁻, fluorinatedphenylSO₂⁻, PhCH₂SO₂⁻, cyclopentylSO₂⁻, *m*-carboxyphenylSO₂⁻, *m*-methylphenylSO₂⁻, and HOOC-(C₁-C₄alkylene)SO₂⁻.

Claims 16-21 (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) A compound that is 6-ethanesulfonyl-N-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-oxynicotinamide.

Claims 23-44 (Cancelled)